

5 **A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DETERMINING A
PREFERRED MIRRORED SERVICE IN A NETWORK
BY EVALUATING A BORDER GATEWAY PROTOCOL**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 An embodiment of the present invention is a system and method for selecting a
mirrored service in a network, such as the Internet, by utilizing a Border Gateway
Protocol (BGP) attribute. According to an embodiment of the present invention, the
BGP attribute, which may be stored in a border router, is accessed for each mirrored
service for a prefix associated with the user requesting a host name. The attributes
15 from each mirrored service are compared with each other to determine a “best” attribute
which meets a predetermined criteria. The mirrored service associated with the best
attribute is then selected as a resolution for the host name.

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